

[FOOD FORMING APPARATUS]

Abstract of Disclosure

A forming apparatus to produce nonsymmetrical three-dimensional shaped products from a food extrusion device includes a vector drive controlling an induction motor through current flux control, which selectively actuates an iris diaphragm. Food product is pumped to the diaphragm, which shapes the product in accordance with settings from an encoder. The flux drive permits variable control of the diaphragm motor in segments of a 360 ° revolution. Alternatively, a servo drive may be used to drive a synchronous motor to operate in accordance with instructions from an encoder—shaping product from a food pump as it is forced through the diaphragm.

Figures